

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MAZATL 00095 160005Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 HA-05 /026 W
-----129922 160007Z /75

O 152320Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1601
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0095

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CASC, CDES, MX (PIAZZA, RENATO FERRER JR.)
SUBJ: PRESUMED MURDER OF AMCIT RENATO FERRER PIAZZA, JR.,
IN MAZATLAN

1. PIAZZA, WHO HAD BEEN ON VACATION WITH HIS BROTHER RICHARD AND FRIEND RONALD FREDERICKS, WAS FOUND DEAD ON BEACH AT BASE OF A SEVENTY FOOT CLIFF NEAR HIS HOTEL ON MARCH 13 AT 0800 HOURS. ACCORDING TO CORONER WITH WHOM CONSUL HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION, DEATH WAS CAUSED BY BLOW TO HEAD. CORONER UNABLE TO SPECULATE ON WHETHER IT CAME BEFORE OR AFTER FALL. NO AUTOPSY PERFORMED, AS NECESSARY EQUIPMENT UNAVAILABLE IN MAZATLAN.

2. LOCAL PRESS STATED THAT THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT PIAZZA SCUFFLED WITH TWO ASSAILANTS ON TOP OF CLIFF. PRESS SPECULATES THAT HE WAS THROWN OVER THE CLIFF AND THAT MOTIVE WAS ROBBERY. PRESS ALSO STATED THAT PROBABLY U.S. AUTHORITIES WOULD PROTEST THE MURDER OF A U.S. CITIZEN AND WOULD DEMAND MORE SECURITY FOR VACATIONING TOURISTS IN MAZATLAN.

3. MUNICIPAL POLICE REPORT SHOWS CAUSE OF DEATH AS BLOW TO HEAD. CONSUL SPOKE TO POLICE INSPECTOR WHO SAID NORTH BEACH AREA WHERE INCIDENT OCCURRED AND WHERE MOST BIG HOTELS LOCATED NOT WELL PROTECTED, AS HE DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT UNITS TO PATROL. FURTHERMORE, HE ADDED, U.S. CITIZENS BECOME OVERLY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MAZATL 00095 160005Z

FRIENDLY WITH UNSAVORY PEOPLE ON BEACHES. HE SAID ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS BEING MADE TO BEEF UP PATROLS AND THAT 600 EXTRA POLICE WOULD BE BROUGHT FROM CULIACAN TO PATROL BEACHES EASTER WEEK. ON MARCH 15, CONSUL CALLED ON STATE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WHO SAID THAT ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC EVIDENCE HAS BEEN UNCOVERED, HE FEELS THAT ASSAILANTS ATTACKED PIAZZA, TRIED TO ROB HIM, AND THAT HE WAS THROWN OVER CLIFF IN STRUGGLE. HE

CITED FOOTPRINTS AT THE TOP OF CLIFF AS A CLUE. ADDING THAT
STATE JUDICIAL POLICE HAD BEEN ORDERED TO INVESTIGATE,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY NOTED THAT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS VERY
MUCH INTERESTED IN THIS CASE, AND, IF EVIDENCE WARRANTS, A
SPECIAL CULIACAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILL BE ASSIGNED.

4. REMAINS OF PIAZZA WILL BE SHIPPED MARCH 16 TO CLARK'S
FUNERAL HOME, VASSAR, MICHIGAN, TELEPHONE (517) 823-8621.
BROTHER RICHARD NOTIFIED MOTHER, MRS. ELEANOR PIAZZA WHO
RESIDES AT 4105 SAGINAW RD, VASSAR, MICHIGAN 48768.
TELEPHONE (517)823-3425.

5. WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT ADVISED.
MATTHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MURDER, ALLEGATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MAZATL00095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780116-0053
Format: TEL
From: MAZATLAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780366/aaaacdwb.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: de51cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3325736
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESUMED MURDER OF AMCIT RENATO FERRER PIAZZA, JR., IN MAZATLAN
TAGS: PINT, CASC, CDES, MX, US, (PIAZZA, RENATO FERRER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/de51cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014